

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims:

OK TO ENTER: /FS/

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A screw anchor comprising:

a deformable central portion in which main longitudinal slots are formed, the main longitudinal slots each being formed in a plane, extending essentially parallel to a plane on which a longitudinal axis of the screw anchor lies, and defining deformable main longitudinal anchoring tongues which lie on opposite sides of the plane and which have a substantially serrated profile;

secondary longitudinal through slots formed in the same central portion, the secondary slots [[being]] each being formed in a plane, essentially parallel with the planes of the main longitudinal slots and having a length which is different from the length of the main longitudinal slots, and wherein said secondary longitudinal slots, define, with an adjacent main longitudinal slot, deformable secondary longitudinal anchoring tongues, the main longitudinal slots and the secondary longitudinal slots being non-equidistantly arranged about the periphery of the screw anchor.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Currently amended) A screw anchor as claimed in Claim [[2]] 1, wherein each deformable secondary longitudinal anchoring tongue has a substantially serrated profile.

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Previously presented) A screw anchor as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said main longitudinal slots are spaced apart on said central portion (2).

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Previously presented) A screw anchor as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said main longitudinal slots comprise four slots which are arranged in two pairs, and wherein each pair of main longitudinal slots are parallel to each other and wherein the pairs of main longitudinal slots are arranged in a mirror image relationship with each other.

9. (Previously presented) A screw anchor as claimed in Claim 8, wherein each secondary longitudinal slot is located between each pair of main longitudinal slots.

10. (Previously presented) A screw anchor as claimed in Claim 1, further comprising a collar at a first end of said central portion; said collar having an annular flange coaxial with said longitudinal axis.

11. (Previously presented) A screw anchor as claimed in Claim 10, further comprising a number of equally spaced projecting appendixes integral with said collar and extending parallel to said longitudinal axis.

12. (Previously presented) A screw anchor as claimed in Claim 10, further comprising a head at a second end of said central portion.

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Currently amended) A screw anchor comprising:

main longitudinal slots each formed in a plane and defining serrated main longitudinal tongues wherein each tongue is located on an opposite side of a plane on which a longitudinal axis of the screw anchor lies; and

secondary through longitudinal slots each formed in a plane and which are formed in the same region as the main longitudinal slots and essentially parallel with the planes of the main longitudinal slots defining pairs of secondary anchoring tongues wherein the pairs are configured so that the one pair of secondary anchoring tongues is located on one side of the plane, and a second pair of secondary anchoring tongues is located on a second side of the plane, the main longitudinal slots and the secondary slots being non-uniformly spaced about a periphery of the screw anchor.

18. (Previously presented) A screw anchor as claimed in Claim 1, wherein each secondary longitudinal slot has a length which is shorter than a length of the main longitudinal slots.

19. (New) A screw anchor as claimed in Claim 1, further comprising: an angularly-shaped longitudinal rib on each of the main longitudinal anchoring tongues and on each of the secondary longitudinal anchoring tongues.